

MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY WEEKLY REPORT

- Motor-Vehicle-Related Deaths Involving Intoxicated Pedestrians -United States, 1982-1992
- Homicides of Persons Aged ≤18 Years — Fulton County, Georgia, 1988-1992
- Workers' Memorial Day --April 28, 1994
 - Occupational Injury Deaths -United States, 1980-1989
- 264 Notices to Readers

Effectiveness in Disease and Injury Prevention

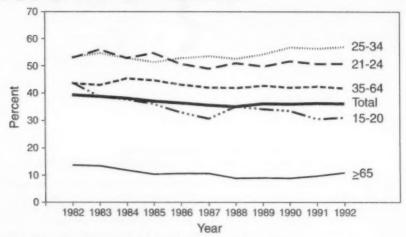
Motor-Vehicle-Related Deaths Involving Intoxicated Pedestrians — United States, 1982-1992

Pedestrians account for 14% of all motor-vehicle-related deaths and approximately 3% of all motor-vehicle-related injuries in the United States (1). In 1992, a total of 5546 pedestrians were killed as a result of motor-vehicle crashes, and 96,000 suffered nonfatal injuries. Because of the effects of alcohol on attention, perception, vision, judgment, and motor control, intoxicated pedestrians are at increased risk for unintentional injury (2). Although alcohol consumption by pedestrians is an important contributing factor to motor-vehicle crashes in which pedestrians are injured, characteristics of intoxicated pedestrians who are killed as a result of such crashes have not been well defined. This report uses data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Fatal Accident Reporting System for 1982-1992 to characterize intoxicated pedestrians aged >14 years who were killed as a result of motor-vehiclerelated crashes.

NHTSA considers a fatal crash to be alcohol related if either the driver or a nonoccupant (e.g., a pedestrian) had a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) >0.01 g/dL in a police-reported motor-vehicle crash. In most states, a BAC ≥0.10 g/dL is the statutory level of intoxication for drivers, although 10 states have established lower levels (e.g., ≥0.08 g/dL). However, there is no statutory level of intoxication for pedestrians. In this report, the term "intoxicated pedestrian" refers to a pedestrian with a BAC ≥0.10 g/dL. NHTSA uses statistical models, based on discriminant function analysis, to estimate BACs of drivers and pedestrians for whom alcohol levels were not available (3). Age groupings in this analysis are those used by NHTSA.

From 1982 to 1992, the number of intoxicated pedestrians who were killed as a result of motor-vehicle crashes declined 28%, from 2395 to 1727; the percentage of all pedestrian deaths that involved intoxicated pedestrians declined by 8%, from 39.4% to 36.2%. The largest decline (29%) in the percentage of deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians occurred among persons aged 15-20 years, decreasing from 44% in 1982 to 31% in 1992 (Figure 1). The only increase in the percentage of pedestrian deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians occurred among persons aged 25-34 years, increasing from 53.3% in 1982 to 57.1% in 1992 (Figure 1).

FIGURE 1. Percentage of all pedestrian deaths that involved intoxicated pedestrians*, by age group and year — United States, 1982–1992



*Persons aged >14 years with a blood alcohol concentration ≥0.10 g/dL.

Source: Fatal Accident Reporting System, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

For all age groups, death rates for intoxicated pedestrians per 100,000 population declined in 1992 compared with 1982; the largest declines occurred among persons aged 15–20 years and 21–24 years (Figure 2). During both years, age-specific death rates for intoxicated pedestrians were lowest for persons aged ≥65 years.

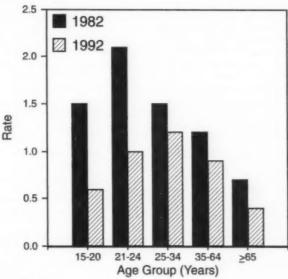
For each year during 1982–1992, the number of deaths among intoxicated pedestrians was greater for males than females. However, the number decreased for both sexes from 1982 to 1992 (males: from 1923 to 1442; females: from 427 to 284). For males, the percentage of pedestrian deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians remained constant (44% versus 43% for 1982 and 1992, respectively); for females, the percentage declined steadily (27% versus 20% for 1982 and 1992, respectively).

From 1982 to 1992, the number of deaths among intoxicated pedestrians declined in both rural and urban areas (rural: from 1014 to 577; urban: from 1368 to 1127). The percentage of pedestrian deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians declined in rural areas (49% versus 43% for 1982 and 1992, respectively) but remained constant in urban areas (35% versus 34% for 1982 and 1992, respectively).

For both sexes, the percentage of pedestrian deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians in 1992 was higher in rural areas than in urban areas (males: 48% versus 41%, respectively; females: 26% versus 18%, respectively). In both rural and urban areas, the percentage was greatest among persons aged 21–24 years and 25–34 years combined (rural: 59%; urban: 54%).

Data for 1992 were examined to characterize the relation between posted speed limit, type of roadway, and deaths among intoxicated pedestrians. Of the 560 deaths

FIGURE 2. Death rate* for intoxicated pedestrians†, by age group and year — United States, 1982 and 1992



*Per 100,000 population.

¹ Pedestrians aged >14 years with a blood alcohol concentration ≥0.10 g/dL.

Source: Fatal Accident Reporting System, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and Bureau of the Census.

in rural areas where posted speed limit and land use were known, 381 (68%) occurred on roadways with a posted speed limit of 55 miles per hour (mph) or greater (Table 1). Most deaths in rural areas occurred either on major streets and highways (divided or undivided) (46%) or on local roadways (45%). Of the 1088 deaths in urban areas where posted speed limit and land use were known, 73% occurred on roadways with a posted speed limit of either 30–35 mph (431 [40%]) or 40–50 mph (357 [33%]). Most deaths in urban areas occurred either on major streets and highways (57%) or on interstates and freeways (25%).

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Editorial Note: The findings in this report indicate that among all pedestrian deaths, the proportion involving intoxicated pedestrians was higher in rural areas than in urban areas. In rural areas, these deaths occurred on roads with higher posted speed limits, suggesting that deaths among intoxicated pedestrians in rural areas may be associated with increased traffic speed or with the location of establishments that

TABLE 1. Estimated number and percentage of deaths among intoxicated pedestrians*, by land use, posted speed limit, and type of roadway† — United States, 1992

	Posted speed limit (miles per hour)													
	5	-25	30	35	40) - 50	2	55	Total					
Land use	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)	No.	(%)				
Rural areas														
Interstates	0	-	0	-	1	(1.9)	52	(98.1)	53	(9.5)				
Major streets/														
Highways [§]	2	(0.8)	13	(5.1)	65	(25.3)	177	(68.9)	257	(45.9)				
Local roads¶	11	(4.4)	27	(10.8)	60	(24.0)	152	(60.8)	250	(44.6)				
Total	13	(2.3)	40	(7.1)	126	(22.5)	381	(68.0)	560	(100.0)				
Urban areas														
Interstates/Freeways	3	(1.1)	18	(6.6)	77	(28.1)	176	(64.2)	274	(25.2)				
Major streets/														
Highways ⁵	30	(4.8)	286	(46.1)	248	(40.0)	56	(9.0)	620	(57.0)				
Neighborhood						,								
streets**	27	(13.9)	127	(65.5)	32	(16.5)	8	(4.1)	194	(17.8)				
Total	60	(5.5)	431	(39.7)	357	(32.8)	240	(22.1)	1088	(100.0)				

*Pedestrians aged >14 years with a blood alcohol concentration ≥0.10 g/dL.

*Excludes cases for which speed and land use were unknown.

These descriptions incorporate the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) definitions of principal and minor arterials.

This description incorporates FHWA's definitions of rural collectors and local roads.

**This description incorporates FHWA's definitions of urban collectors and local roads.

Source: Fatal Accident Reporting System, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

serve or sell alcohol along high-speed roadways where few barriers or sidewalks exist. In urban areas, deaths among intoxicated pedestrians may be associated with traffic volume or the location of establishments that serve or sell alcohol along densely populated commercial roadways with low posted speed limits.

In 1992, approximately 12% of all pedestrian deaths involved an intoxicated driver, and 36% involved an intoxicated pedestrian (4). Although reasons for the higher proportion of deaths involving intoxicated pedestrians are unclear, 60% of fatally injured intoxicated pedestrians have BACs ≥0.20 g/dL—twice the legal limit for drivers in most states (5) and many may be alcoholics (6). In addition, previous studies indicate that pedestrians with BACs ≥0.08 g/dL are 3.6 times more likely to be struck by a motor vehicle than those who are not alcohol impaired (7) and that severity of injuries is directly associated with BAC.

To characterize risk factors associated with motor-vehicle-related deaths among intoxicated pedestrians, NHTSA is sponsoring a study in Baltimore to assess selected variables (e.g., time and location of crash, purpose of the pedestrian trip, and number of roadway lanes); the findings may assist in developing community-based interventions to reduce motor-vehicle crashes involving intoxicated pedestrians. In addition, a working group established by the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs, and Traffic Safety is reviewing the effectiveness of programs and developing recommendations for reducing this problem worldwide (8).

During 1982–1992, progress toward reducing the proportion of deaths among intoxicated drivers was greater than that among intoxicated pedestrians. Although no

legal definition of intoxication exists for pedestrians, some of the prevention and intervention strategies designed to reduce alcohol-impaired driving may be adapted to reduce intoxication among pedestrians. Examples include statutory limitations on BAC; laws that control the availability of alcohol; early identification and treatment for persons with alcohol problems; and interventions targeting consumers, sellers, and servers of alcohol (9). Additional strategies include using environmental approaches that separate pedestrians from traffic (e.g., overpasses and pedestrian malls), which should assist in reducing deaths among all pedestrians (10); initiating public-awareness and public-education programs to inform drivers and pedestrians about the hazards associated with intoxicated pedestrians; devising different interventions for use on high-speed roads (in rural areas) and medium-speed roads (in urban areas); and developing ecologic approaches that focus on the interaction between the pedestrian, driver, vehicle design, community characteristics, and the physical and social environment.

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Current Trends

Homicides of Persons Aged ≤18 Years — Fulton County, Georgia, 1988–1992

Homicide is a major cause of death among persons aged ≤18 years in the United States; among black males aged 15–24 years, homicide is the leading cause of death (1). Most efforts to characterize homicide among persons aged ≤18 years have used databases at the national level (2–5) rather than at the state or local level or have been restricted in scope to specific types of homicides (e.g., gang-related homicide [2]). This report summarizes an epidemiologic study of homicides that occurred among persons aged ≤18 years in Fulton County (Atlanta), Georgia (1990 population: 648,951), from 1988 through 1992.

All known or suspected homicides occurring in Fulton County are reported to the Fulton County Medical Examiner (FCME) for investigation of the cause, manner, and circumstances of death. FCME death investigation data for 1988 through 1992 were reviewed to identify cases of homicide among persons aged ≤18 years that resulted from an intentional act of commission or omission by another person regardless of the perpetrator's degree of intent. Information analyzed included the decedent's demographic characteristics, the circumstances and cause of death, toxicologic findings, the involvement of firearms in the death, and, when available, demographic data about the perpetrator(s). A person was classified as a perpetrator on the basis of police reports and district attorney records indicating that that person was a primary suspect or was arrested or charged with the homicide.

During the 5-year period, FCME certified 141 homicides of persons aged ≤18 years, accounting for 12% of all homicides in the county. Of the 141 homicides, 107 (75%) occurred among adolescents aged 13–18 years; eight (6%), among children aged 7–12 years; and 26 (19%), among children aged ≤6 years. The overall homicide rate for persons aged ≤18 years was 14.1 per 100,000, compared with 37.8 per 100,000 for persons of all ages; the rate for males (20.0 per 100,000) was more than threefold higher than for females (5.8 per 100,000). Rates were highest among adolescents aged 13–18 years (35.7) and among infants (i.e., children aged <1 year) (17.4) and higher among black persons aged ≤18 years (24.5) than persons of other races (2.5).

Of the 141 homicides, 110 (78%) resulted from the use of firearms. Firearms accounted for 98 (92%) of the 107 homicides among adolescents aged 13–18 years, compared with six (75%) of the eight deaths among children aged 7–12 years, five (33%) of the 15 deaths among children aged 1–6 years, and one (9%) of 11 deaths among infants. Deaths resulting from blunt-force injury accounted for 16 (11%) of the deaths, and the proportion of deaths from blunt force was higher among younger decedents: such deaths accounted for seven (64%) of the homicides among infants, seven (47%) among children aged 1–6 years, and two (2%) among those aged 7–18 years. Eight (6%) deaths were caused by sharp force (including stabbing and cutting), and seven (5%) resulted from other causes (e.g., asphyxia).

Of the 110 firearm-associated deaths, 58 (53%) resulted from the use of handguns. Investigative findings suggested that 14 (13%) other homicides may have resulted from the use of handguns. Six (5%) of the firearm-associated deaths resulted from the use of a rifle (including one assault rifle) and four (4%) from the use of a shotgun. In

Homicides — Continued

28 (25%) deaths, bullets were not recovered or records did not indicate bullet or gun type involved.

Overall, 86 (61%) of the homicides occurred outdoors. Homicides occurred indoors at home for 19 (73%) of 26 children aged ≤6 years, three (38%) of eight children aged 7–12 years, and 12 (11%) of 107 adolescents aged 13–18 years. Of the 86 homicides that occurred outside and away from home, 48 (56%) occurred in a "parking lot," on a "sidewalk," or "on the street"; three occurred at school; and nine involved victims who were in vehicles. Nineteen of the homicides occurred on a Monday; 23 on a Tuesday; 19 on a Wednesday; 17 on a Thursday; 15 on a Friday; 28 on a Saturday; and 20 on a Sunday. Most homicides (72 [51%]) occurred between 6 p.m. and midnight; 27 (19%), between midnight and 6 a.m.; 12 (9%), between 6 a.m. and noon; and 29 (21%), between noon and 6 p.m.

In 20 (14%) cases, a motive was not apparent. Of the 121 homicides for which a motive was determined, 29 (21%) deaths involved illicit drug activity as a precipitating motive, 14 (10%) resulted when the perpetrator was attempting to kill someone else, 14 (10%) were caused by perpetrators who were allegedly "playing" with a gun, 14 (10%) occurred under circumstances indicating child abuse or neglect, 11 (8%) resulted from "drive-by shootings," 11 (8%) were caused by a family member, and 11 (8%) were associated with robbery.

Toxicology testing of 131 decedents detected ethanol in 21 (16%), cocaine in 17 (13%), and marijuana in 11 (8%). At least one drug (including ethanol) was detected in 44 of the 101 decedents aged 13–18 years who were tested.

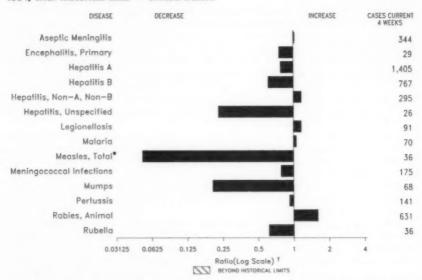
The identity of a perpetrator was known to law enforcement officials when they began their investigation in 56 (40%) of the cases. As of February 28, 1993, records of the police and district attorney indicated that 100 suspects had been identified or arrested for 82 (58%) of the homicides. Of the 100 persons, 90 were of the same race as the victim, 82 were males of the same race as the victim, and 46 were aged ≤18 years.

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Editorial Note: In Fulton County, a high percentage of homicides among persons aged ≤18 years were associated with firearms, a finding consistent with previous reports (2–4,6,7) describing homicide among children and young adults. Previous reports also have documented higher rates of homicide among infants and children of preschool age and adolescents (8). Based on the findings in Fulton County and previous reports, prevention strategies should recognize that younger children are more likely to be victimized indoors, at home, and by family members who use blunt force, shaking, or methods other than firearms (7), and homicides among adolescents occur away from home and outdoors and are perpetrated by nonfamily members using firearms (2.4.6).

In Fulton County, black males were at highest risk for homicide; however, birth-, maternal-, or education-related risk factors were not evaluated. Race may be a marker for these and other potential risk factors for homicide (e.g., socioeconomic status) (9).

FIGURE I. Notifiable disease reports, comparison of 4-week totals ending April 9, 1994, with historical data — United States



*The large apparent decrease in reported cases of measles (total) reflects dramatic fluctuations in the historical baseline.

¹ Ratio of current 4-week total to mean of 15 4-week totals (from previous, comparable, and subsequent 4-week periods for the past 5 years). The point where the hatched area begins is based on the mean and two standard deviations of these 4-week totals.

TABLE I. Summary — cases of specified notifiable diseases, United States, cumulative, week ending April 9, 1994 (14th Week)

	Cum. 1994		Cum. 1994
AIDS*	20,445	Measles: imported	8
Anthrax		indigenous	8 87
Botulism: Foodborne	10	Plague	1
Infant	10 15	Poliomyelitis, Paralytic ⁵	-
Other	6	Paittacosis	7
Brucellosis	6 15 3	Rabies, human	
Cholera	3	Syphilis, primary & secondary	5,305
Congenital rubella syndrome	3	Syphilis, congenital, age < 1 year	
Diphtheria		Tetanus	7
Encephalitis, post-infectious	35	Toxic shock syndrome	69 23
Gonorrhea	95,832	Trichinosis	23
Haemophilus influenzae (invasive disease)1	306	Tuberculosis	4,234
Hansen Disease	306 31 10	Tularemia	2
Leptospirosis	10	Typhoid fever	77
Lyme Disease	710	Typhus fever, tickborne (RMSF)	30

*Updated monthly; last update March 29, 1994.

10f 285 cases of known age, 82 (29%) were reported among children less than 5 years of age.

No cases of suspected poliomyelitis have been reported in 1994; 3 cases of suspected poliomyelitis have been reported in 1993; 4 of the 5 suspected cases with onset in 1992 were confirmed; the confirmed cases were vaccine associated.

TABLE II. Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending April 9, 1994, and April 10, 1993 (14th Week)

		Aseptic	Encepl	halitis			He	patitis (\					
Reporting Area	AIDS*	Menin- gitis	Primary	Post-in- fectious	Gono	rrhea	A	В	NA,NB	Unspeci- fied	Legionel- losis	Lyme Disease	
	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	
UNITED STATES	20,445	1,282	146	35	95,832	105,441	5,082	2,938	1,162	103	380	710	
NEW ENGLAND	697	47	5	2	2.170	2.198	80	133	34	13			
Maine	28	4	1	*	14	27	11	3	34	13	13	93	
N.H. Vt.	10	1 5	*	1	-	17	2	6	5			3	
Mass.	337	17	3		814	917 817	39	101				1	
R.I.	83	20	1	1	115	110	12	121	22	13	10	51	
Conn.	217	*	*		1,220	1,216	16				3	15 23	
MID. ATLANTIC	5,899	135	21	99	12,517	10,385	284	291	154	4	55	438	
Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	3,661	50	8	1	2,300	2,144	120	106	72		13	249	
N.J.	1,203	3	1	*	3,383 1,142	3,355	21	12			-	*	
Pa.	498	82	12	10	5,692	1,448 3,438	74 69	91	62 20	4	6	80	
E.N. CENTRAL	1,670	229	42	8	16,883	22,175	430				36	109	
Ohio	296	63	15		6,226	6,295	151	271 57	79	2	102	9	
Ind.	286	50	2	*	2,222	2,140	96	52	2		57 13	8	
III. Mich.	767 230	28	10	2	3,490	7,573	77	24	1	1	4		
Wis.	91	84	15	6	4,470	4,408	70	94	71	1	24	1	
W.N. CENTRAL	426	83				1,759	36	44	2		4	-	
Minn.	106	5	5	1	5,218 906	5,483	220	160	54	2	47	7	
lowa	13	31			395	724	42	12	2 4	i		4	
Mo.	163	22			2,790	3,050	124	122	44	1	19 20	1	
N. Dak. S. Dak.	27	1	1	*		15	1		-		20	-	
Nebr.	29	2	1		AB	51	10	- :		*	-		
Kans.	84	22	1	1	1,082	1,025	23 12	5	2	*	7	-	
S. ATLANTIC	4,056	313	25	11					2		1	2	
Del.	53	1	-		27,713 468	28,277 363	352	751	286	13	85	131	
Md.	298	45	5	1	5.076	4,584	44	91	11	4	21	40 22	
D.C. Va.	304	6		-	2,090	1,529	8	13		-	41	1	
W. Va.	249	45 5	10	4	3,622	2,395	34	27	13	1	2	12	
N.C.	384	48	10		190 6,988	179 6.581	3 28	81	8		1	3	
S.C.	325	7		*	3,344	2,478	8	12	24		6	19	
Ga. Fla.	547	10	*		-	3,853	36	345	151		35	32	
	1,889	146		6	5,935	6,315	187	164	59	8	18	2	
E.S. CENTRAL Ky.	549	79	14	1	11,545	10,128	122	308	225	1	21	3	
Tenn.	105 154	30 21	6	1	1,212	1,266	55	12	4		1	1	
Alu.	155	21	4	-	3,086 4,526	2,530 3,653	36 16	274	219	1	13	1	
Miss.	135	7			2,721	2,679	15	22	2	-	5 2	1	
W.S. CENTRAL	2,674	78	5		10,918	12,769	731	305	93				
Ark.	65	6			1,914	2,339	13	7	2	22	11	7	
La. Okia.	304 57	3	1	*	3,717	3,020	25	35	19	1	-	-	
Tex.	2.248	69	4	*	494	838 6,572	59	95	50		7	6	
MOUNTAIN	609	39	2				634	168	22	21	*	1	
Mont.	8	38	2		1,593	3,068	1,016	130	96	5	21	4	
Idaho	15	1			17	33	88	22	32	1	9	-	
Wyo.	5		-	*	27	23	5	6	28		1	1	
Colo. N. Mex.	292 43	6	*	~	680	1,041	61	6	7	2	i		
Ariz.	124	18			291	288 1,062	282	53	12	2	1	3	
Utah	33	2	*		90	88	409	17	9		1	*	
Nev.	89	6	2		469	522	51	12	4		8	1	
PACIFIC	3,865	279	27	1	7,275	10,958	1,847	589	141	41	25	10	
Wash.	209	*		*	853	1,036	97	23	21	41	5	18	
Oreg. Calif.	103 3,477	218	20		289	415	85	13	2	1			
Alaska	10	12	26	-	5,686	9,261	1,590	529	114	38	18	18	
Hawaii	66	49	-	1	229	110	63 12	20	4	2	2	*	
Guam					31	32	1	20	4		2	•	
P.R.	608	5			139	145	16	74	17	4 2		*	
V.L.	24			-	8	22		1		-	-	-	
Amer. Samoa C.N.M.I.	i	*	*	*	7	7	4		*				
Wat Wat Will.		-	-	-	16	17	2	*	*				

N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable C.N.M.L: Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands

^{*}Updated monthly; last update March 29, 1994.

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending April 9, 1994, and April 10, 1993 (14th Week)

			Messale	s (Rub	eola)		Menin-				_				
Reporting Area	Malaria	Indigenous			orted*	Total	gococcal Infections	Mu	mps	,	Pertussi		Rubella		
	Cum. 1994	1994	Cum. 1994	1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1994	1994	Cum. 1994	1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993	1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993
UNITED STATES	258	2	87	*	8	87	902	15	322	42	801	844	7	94	46
NEW ENGLAND	25	1	8			45	53		8	1	68	218	4	64	1
Maine N.H.	1	*	*	*	-		6		3	-	2	5	-	04	i
Vt.	3			*	*	26	1		2	-	19	97			
Mass.	8	*	2	-		10	22	-	-	1	33	34 73			
R.I.	4		3			1			1	-	2	2	4	64	
Conn.	8	1	3		*	8	23	-	2		4	7	-		
MID. ATLANTIC	32		21	-	2	9	90	3	31	5	193	122	2	6	13
Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	10		2			1	30	2	5	4	80	43	2	6	1
N.J.	13		18		1	6	21		*	-	34	5		*	7
Pa.	7				1		36	1	26	1	79	26 48		-	4
E.N. CENTRAL	24		3		2		136	1	55	14			*		1
Ohio	3		4	*			32		8	3	131 59	185		6	1
fmd. III.	6 7	-	1		-	-	32	*	3	11	27	9		-	
Mich.	7				1	*	43		26	-	14	29		2	
Wis.	1		2	*	1		14 15	1	18	*	20	11 64	*	4	-
W.N. CENTRAL	14	-			1					-			-		1
Minn.	4	-	-			2	64	1	13	*	22	28	*		1
Mo.	3	*	. Ac	-	-		5	1	4	-	1		-		
N. Dak,	5	*	*	-		1	35		7	*	6	13		*	1
S. Dak.						*	4	*	1	-	*	1		*	
Nebr.	1	*			1		4		1	-	1	4	*	*	-
Karrs.	1	*	-			1	11			-	6	9			
S. ATLANTIC	88		9			14	155	2	61	5	120	57		5	3
Diel. Md.	29	*	-				*			*					1
D.C.	7					1	12	2	13	2	37	21			1
Vn.	8		1			1	21	~	14		13	5	-	-	-
W. Va.	*						7		2	-	2	1	-		
N.C. S.C.	2	*	-	*			31	*	20		34	9			
Ga.	2	-		-	-		5	*	5		8	5			
Fla.	9		8			12	26 52	-	2 5	3	7	9	*	-	
E.S. CENTRAL	7		24				63				-			5	1
Ky.	2						15		4	*	23	35	*	*	
Tenn. Als.	3		24	-		*	16	-			13	18			
Miss.	1	*	-	~	*	*	26	*			7	7			-
W.S. CENTRAL							6	*	4	*		2	*		*
Ark.	8	1	6	*	1	1	113	3	79	1	26	15	-	4	8
Lo.		1	1	~		1	17 18	1	7	1	3	1	*	-	-
Okla.	3		-	-	*		9	1	21		20	10	-	ā	1
Tiesc.	5	*	5	*	1	*	69	1	51	-	3		-	-	7
MOUNTAIN	5	*	10			2	62		8	4	49	55	1	1	4
Mont. Idaho	2		*	*	*	*	2	*		*	2				*
Wyo.						*	10	-	3	*	20	10	1	1	1
Colo.	1	*				2	5	-	-	2	9	21		*	
N. Mex. Ariz.	1	*	-	*	*	*	5	N	N	1	6	13		-	-
Utah	1		10		-		25	~		1	9	6			-
Nev.		*	10			-	9		2		3	4	*	-	2
FACIFIC	75		6		2	14	186							*	1
Wash.	1					14	106	5	63	12	189	129	*	8	15
Oreg. Calif.	3	-					18	N	Ñ		17	-		-	1
Catit. Alaska	61		6	*	2	3	128	4	55	12	135	117	*	7	9
Hawaii	10		-			11	5	-	2	*	-	1	*		1
Guam		U	1	11		**	9	1	4		6	4	-	1	4
P.R.		8	13	U		120	2	U	2 2	U	-	-	U	-	-
V.I.	*								2	1	1	-	*	*	*
Amer. Samoa C.N.M.I.						1			1	*	1	2	-		-
Mart Walledon	1		26		*	*	-					-	-		

^{*}For messles only, imported cases include both out-of-state and international importations. N: Not notifiable U: Unavailable International Out-of-state

TABLE II. (Cont'd.) Cases of selected notifiable diseases, United States, weeks ending April 9, 1994, and April 10, 1993 (14th Week)

Reporting Area	Syj (Primary &	philis (Secondary)	Texic- Shock Syndrome	Tuber	culosis	Tula- remia	Typhoid Fever	Typhus Fever (Tick-borne) (RMSF)	Rabies
UNITED STATES	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1993	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994	Cum. 1994
UNITED STATES	5,305	7,711	69	4.234	4,496	2	77	30	
NEW ENGLAND	57	125	2	83	75		9		1,553
Maine N.H.	1	2		-	7		9	2	485
Vt.		15		2	5				62
Mass.	17	59	2	39	25	*	:	2	47
R.I.	5	3	-	8	16		5	2	184
Conn.	34	46		34	21		3		5 187
MID. ATLANTIC	381	636	12	737	988		16		169
Upstate N.Y. N.Y. City	36 187	71 399	6	62	144	*	3		100
N.J.	39	111		415 142	607 113	*	7		
Pa.	119	55	6	118	124		6		89
E.N. CENTRAL	640	1,263	16	454	535		16		
Ohio	282	311	5	63	72		1	4 2	6
Ind.	75	104	1	38	50	-	1	-	
Mich.	147 96	525 192	6	245 98	299	*	8	1	2
Wis.	40	131		10	95 19		3	1	2
W.N. CENTRAL	318	512	10	107					2
Minn.	14	29	10	26	77	2		1	40
lowa	13	26	6	9	5			î	18
Mo. N. Dak.	266	384	3	50	43	2			4
S. Dak.				6	4 6	*	*		
Nebr.	-	8	1	3	5	*	-	*	2
Kans.	25	65		12	14				15
S. ATLANTIC	1,590	2,016	4	661	710		14	20	524
Del. Md.	6	34	*	-	9			20	24
D.C.	72 67	110 129	~	85	104	*	2		174
Va.	193	164		36 88	133		1	:	1
W. Ve.	6	1		23	22		-	1	114
N.C. S.C.	510	543	*	75	121			10	51
Ga.	190 287	328 357	-	100	91			*	47
Fla.	259	350	4	232	188	*	11	9	105
E.S. CENTRAL	1,033	831	1	225			**	*	8
Ky.	69	72		80	295 79			1	37
Tenn.	238	182	1	1	53				2
Ala. Miss.	181 545	213		105	113				26
W.S. CENTRAL		364	*	39	50			1	
Ark.	1,097 133	1,776		421	368	*	3	2	208
Lis.	543	682	-	73	27		2	1	8
Okla.	15	102		29	35	-	2	1	30 15
Tex.	406	656		319	306		1		155
MOUNTAIN	52	63	2	115	140		6		23
Mont. Idaho	î	*	:	:	5	*	-		
Wyo.		î	1	4 3	2	*			
Colo.	41	21	1	1	19		2		5
N. Mex.	5	12		25	10			-	
Ariz. Utah	5	27	*	55	67	*	1		17
Nev.		1		27	9 27		1 2	-	2
PACIFIC	137	489	22						1
Wash.	8	12	22	1,431	1,308		13	*	61
Oreg.	2	25		34	18		1		*
Calif.	125	448	19	1,258	1,131		11		44
Alaska Hawaii	1	2 2	3	14	12	*	-		17
Guam	1	4	3	66	84	*	1	*	-
P.R.	73	157		7	16 44		*	*	-
V.I.	7	15			2		-	-	18
Amer. Samos	:			-	1		1		-
C.N.M.I.	1			14	6		i		

U: Unavailable

TABLE III. Deaths in 121 U.S. cities,* week ending April 9, 1994 (14th Week)

Beauting her	A	ill Caus	ses, By	Age (Ye	nars)		PAI'		All Causes, By Age (Years)							
Reporting Area	All Ages		45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	Total	Reporting Area	All Ages	≥85	45-64	25-44	1-24	<1	P& Tot	
NEW ENGLAND 589 382 102 51 15		19	49	S. ATLANTIC	1,218	757	260	138	33	29	6					
loston, Mass.	155	85	37	20	2	11	17	Atlanta, Ga.	172	97	50	18	5	2		
ridgeport, Conn.	29	17	8	2	2		2	Baltimore, Md.	181	113	38	20	1	8		
ambridge, Mass.	13	12	1	i		*	- 1	Charlotte, N.C.	120	51	17	9	2	3		
all River, Mass. lartford, Conn.	26 64	21 34	11	11	5	3	5	Jacksonville, Fla. Miami, Fla.	138	93 79	25 23	15 15	4	1		
lartford, Conn. owell, Mass.	18	34 14		2	2	3	5	Miami, Fla. Norfolk, Va.	121	79 17	7	15	4	1		
owell, Mass. ynn, Mass.	21	17	4	2			1	Richmond, Va.	71	43	17	10	1			
lew Bedford, Mass	s. 25	20	2	2		1	2	Savannah, Ga.	47	34	7	3	2	1		
lew Haven, Conn.	37	25	6	4	1	1	3	St. Petersburg, Fle.	58	50	5	1	2			
rovidence, R.I.	45	35	5	2	2	1	4	Tampa, Fla.	151	95	35	12	7	2		
iomerville, Mass.	3	3			*		*	Washington, D.C.	155	76	36	27	5	11		
pringfield, Mass.	48	36		3	2		3	Wilmington, Del.	10	9	*	1		*		
Vaterbury, Conn.	24	18		1	1	1	3	E.S. CENTRAL	805	535	154	69	29	18		
Vorcester, Mess.	61	45		3		1	8	Birmingham, Ala.	124	82	28	8	2	4		
AID. ATLANTIC	2,640			279	54	73	107	Chartanooga, Tenn.	51	35	10	4	*	2		
Ibany, N.Y.	53	43	5	3	1	1	4	Knoxville, Tenn.	68	48	11	8	1			
Illentown, Pa.	21	15	6				1	Lexington, Ky.	81	52	15	6	4	4		
luffalo, N.Y.	118	87	25	2	3	1	5	Memphis, Tenn.	225	146	46	21	10	2		
amden, N.J.	36	22	6	4	2	2		Mobile, Ala.	62	37	13	7	3	2		
lizabeth, N.J.	17	13		-	1			Montgomery, Ala.	62	49	6	5	2			
rie, Pa.9	42			-	-		-4	Nashville, Tenn.	132	86	25	10	7	4		
ersey City, N.J.	59	39		5	1 26	6	4.	W.S. CENTRAL	1,468	919	295	171	53	27		
lew York City, N.Y.				172	26	26		Austin, Tex.	62	34	12	14	1	1		
lewark, N.J. aterson, N.J.	98 36			17	4	9	9	Baton Rouge, La.	40	31	6	1	1	1		
aterson, N.J. hiladelphia, Pa.	36 431			46	11	14	î	Corpus Christi, Tex.	48	34	12	1	-	1		
hiladelphia, Pa. ittsburgh, Pa.§	108			48 7	11	7	12	Dalles, Tex.	183	101	48	23	8	3		
eading, Pa.s	7	6		1	1	7	12	El Paso, Tex.	90	57	15	9	4	5		
lochester, N.Y.	121			3	4	4		Ft. Worth, Tex.	121	67	23	20	8	3		
chenectady, N.Y.	23			1	-	-	1	Houston, Tex.	289	172	66	37	8	6		
cranton, Pa.9	33	25	7	1			3	Little Rock, Ark.	64	35	18	5	2	4		
yracuse, N.Y.	54	41	7	3	*	2	7	New Orleans, La.	183	110	33	28	9	*		
renton, N.J.	34	26	8		*		*	San Antonio, Tex.	198	139	29	20	7	3		
Itica, N.Y.	17	13	1	2		1		Shreveport, La.	143	102	29	4 9	2			
onkers, N.Y.	20	15	3	2	*	*		Tulsa, Okla.								
N. CENTRAL	1,839			185	98	47	134	MOUNTAIN	804	526	161	69	29	19		
Akron, Ohio	48	39	7	2	-	-		Albuquerque, N.M.	96	52	25	14	4	1		
anton, Ohio	28	24	3	1			3	Colo. Springs, Colo.		26	9	3	2			
Chicago, III.	427	168	101	81	62	15	24	Denver, Colo.	117	78	28	6	1	4		
incinnati, Ohio	107	79	18	7	1	2	11	Las Vegas, Nev.	142	95	28	14	3	2		
leveland, Ohio	U			U	U	U	U	Ogden, Utah	171	18	32	20	12	2		
columbus, Ohio	178				5	8	13	Phoenix, Ariz. Pueblo, Colo.		104		20	12	3		
Payton, Ohio	107			6	-	1	6	Salt Lake City, Utah	17	47	14	8	4	ā		
Detroit, Mich.	216	123	54	25	7	7	18	Tucson, Ariz.	116	92		2	1	3		
vansville, Ind.	52 67			2 7	2	1	5						-		ď	
ort Wayne, Ind. Serv. Ind.	67 26			3	3		3	PACIFIC	1,682		297	164	44	31	1	
iery, Ind. irand Rapids, Mic					2		5	Berkeley, Calif.	21	16	2	3		-		
irand Hapids, Mic Indianapolis, Ind.	n. 47				5	i	14	Fresno, Calif.	63	44		8	1	2		
fadison, Wis.	168				1	4		Glendale, Calif.	22			-				
Ailwaukee, Wis.	127				2			Honolulu, Hawaii	99	71		5	1	3		
eoria, III.	40	27	7 11		1	1	3	Long Beach, Calif.	64			53	900			
lockford, III.	47	33	8 6	6	1	1	6	Los Angeles, Calif. Pasadena, Calif.	411	254		53	10	5 2		
outh Bend, Ind.	42	35	5 4	3			5	Pasadena, Calif. Portland, Oreg.	30 101	17 67	8 24	3 5	i	2		
oledo, Ohio	U	U	U	U	U		U	Sacramento, Calif.	140			12	3	2		
bungstown, Ohio					3			San Diego, Calif.	137			17	3	5		
N. CENTRAL	770							San Francisco, Calif.				17	4	3		
V.N. CENTRAL les Maines, lawa					22	23		San Jose, Calif.	184			10	4	*		
es Moines, lowa uluth, Minn.	116			4	1			Santa Cruz, Calif.	U	U	U	U	U	U		
uluth, Minn. ansas City, Kans.				6	3		1	Seattle, Wash.	161	106	27	17	7	4		
ansas City, Kans. ansas City, Mo.	95				2	2		Spokane, Wash.	43	32	6	4	1			
incoln, Nebr.	34				2	2	2	Tacoma, Wash.	87			1		4		
incoin, Nebr. finneapolis, Minn					10	8	13		-	-			997			
tinneapolis, Minn Imaha, Nebr.	1. 188				10	2	13	TOTAL	11,795	7,884	z,259	1,182	377	286	1	
mana, Neor. t. Louis, Mo.	108				2											
t. Paul, Minn.	61	47	7 7	6		- 1	5									
Vichita, Kans.	48				3	4										

^{*}Mortality data in this table are voluntarily reported from 121 cities in the United States, most of which have populations of 100,000 or more. A death is reported by the place of its occurrence and by the week that the death certificate was filed. Fetal deaths are not included.
Preumonia and influenza.
*Because of changes in reporting methods in these 3 Pennsylvania cities, these numbers are partial counts for the current week. Complete counts will be available in 4 to 6 weeks.

Total includes unknown ages.
U: Unavailable.

Homicides — Continued

The definition of perpetrator used in Fulton County was necessary because insufficient time had elapsed in some cases to allow for legal disposition of the case and because of other factors (e.g., difficulty in identifying a perpetrator because of plea bargaining and case complexity). However, nearly half of known or suspected perpetrators were aged ≤18 years, illicit drug activity was the suspected motive cited most commonly, and most decedents and perpetrators were of the same race. These findings suggest that programs to prevent homicide among persons aged ≤18 years could be integrated with drug-abuse prevention programs.

The reduction of homicide among children and young adults is a national health objective for the year 2000 (objective 7.1) (10). Studies to characterize homicide at the local level—such as that in Fulton County—will be critical for developing local prevention and intervention strategies (3,4). Law enforcement, public health, criminal justice, and other agencies in Fulton County are developing programs to monitor homicide occurrence and plans to use that information to assist in reducing homicide in persons aged ≤18 years.

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Workers' Memorial Day - April 28, 1994

Each year, approximately 6300 workers in the United States die from work-related injuries; costs of such injuries exceed \$83 billion annually (1). In addition, an estimated 50,000–70,000 workers die each year from occupational diseases. To honor those who have died from occupational injuries or diseases and to recognize opportunities to prevent these deaths, April 28, 1994, has been designated Workers' Memorial Day.

Additional information on causes and prevention of work-related injury and disease is available from CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, telephone (800) 356-4674.

Reference

 Hensler DR, Marquis MS, Abrahamse AF, et al. Compensation for accidental injuries in the United States. Santa Monica, California: Rand/The Institute for Civil Justice, 1991.

Current Trends

Occupational Injury Deaths — United States, 1980-1989

During 1980–1989, 63,589 workers died from occupational injuries, an average of 17 deaths per day. CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) monitors occupational injury deaths through the National Traumatic Occupational Fatalities (NTOF) surveillance system (1). This report summarizes occupational injury deaths compiled by NTOF* for 1980–1989[†].

The leading causes of occupational injury deaths were motor-vehicle-related injuries (23%), machine-related injuries (14%), homicides (12%), falls (10%), electrocutions (7%), and incidents during which a worker was struck by a falling object (7%). The industrial sectors with the highest average annual fatality rates were mining (31.9 per 100,000 workers), construction (25.6), transportation/communication/public utilities (23.3), and agriculture/forestry/fishing (18.3). The largest numbers of deaths occurred in the construction (11,430), transportation/communication/public utilities (11,320), manufacturing (8562), and agriculture/forestry/fishing (7480) industries.

Motor vehicles were the leading cause of occupational injury death in 34 states. Machines accounted for the largest number of deaths in seven states (lowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and South Dakota), as did homicide (Alabama, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maryland, Michigan, New York, ⁵ and South Carolina). Air transport crashes were the leading cause of death in two states (Hawaii and Nevada), and water transport incidents were the leading cause of death in one state (Alaska).

^{*}The criteria provided to the vital statistics reporting units for submission of death certificates to NTOF are 1) age ≥16 years; 2) external cause of death (*International Classification of Diseases, Ninth Revision*, codes E800–E999); and 3) "injury at work?" item marked "yes".

¹Most recent year for which data are available.

[§] Because homicide data were not available for the entire period of the study, homicide numbers for New York were estimated.

Occupational Injury Deaths — Continued

The construction industry accounted for the largest number of deaths in 15 states (Arizona, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia). Transportation/communication/public utilities accounted for the largest number of deaths in 14 states (Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Utah, and Wyoming); agriculture/forestry/fishing, the largest number of deaths in 10 states (Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin); manufacturing, the largest number of deaths in eight states (Alabama, Georgia, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Oregon, South Carolina, and Washington); mining, the largest number of deaths in three states (Kentucky, Oklahoma, and West Virginia); and construction and manufacturing, an equal number of deaths in one state (Vermont).

Mining was the highest risk industry in 23 states. Construction was the highest risk industry in 12 states (Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, and South Dakota), and transportation/communication/public utilities was the highest risk industry in 12 states (Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Texas, West Virginia, and Wyoming). Agriculture/forestry/fishing was the highest risk industry in four states (Alaska, Hawaii, Louisiana, and Rhode Island).

Reported by: Div of Safety Research, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, CDC. Editorial Note: This report provides both the most comprehensive analysis of occupational injury deaths in the United States and the first description of patterns of occupational injury fatalities in all states. Based on these findings and previous studies, NIOSH recommends that states examine the industries and occupations at highest risk for or with greatest numbers of occupational fatalities. Preventing occupational fatalities requires the efforts of employers, employees, public health and other government agencies, industry, and labor officials.

Although rankings of causes of death varied by state, the overall leading causes of death were motor-vehicle-related incidents, machine-related incidents, homicides, and falls. Prevention of workplace deaths from these diverse causes requires multi-disciplinary approaches. For example, in preventing deaths from motor-vehicle crashes, existing injury-control technologies (e.g., safety belts and air bags) developed by organizations addressing public safety also may be applicable to workers whose job requires travel by motor vehicle.

Most occupational fatalities—including nontraffic motor-vehicle-related deaths—occurred at construction, agricultural, manufacturing, retail, and other self-contained or fixed worksites. These worksites provide unique opportunities for implementing injury-prevention strategies in relatively controlled environments. Prevention of worker deaths from machine-related incidents, homicides, falls, and other leading causes require interventions unique to the workplace (e.g., installation or redesign of machine guarding, use of personal protective equipment, improved environmental design, worker training, and employer/employee safety programs).

^{*}Denominators derived from employment data obtained from County Business Patterns, an establishment-based census of employers (2).

Occupational Injury Deaths - Continued

One of the national health objectives for the year 2000 is to reduce the number of deaths from work-related injuries to no more than four per 100,000 workers (objective 10.1) (3). The findings in this report may be used in targeting injury-prevention efforts for workers in groups that are at high risk for or are characterized by large numbers of occupational fatalities.

NIOSH has recently published Fatal Injuries to Workers in the United States, 1980–1989: A Decade of Surveillance: National and State Profiles (1). Single copies are available without charge from the Publications Office, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, NIOSH, CDC, Mailstop C-13, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998: telephone (800) 356-4674; fax (513) 533-8573.

References

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Notice to Readers

National Infant Immunization Week

April 23–29, 1994, has been designated National Infant Immunization Week. This week also will inaugurate the Childhood Immunization Initiative (1), a comprehensive effort to ensure that children aged 0–2 years are fully vaccinated. The theme of the initiative, "Immunize on Time, Your Baby's Counting on You," emphasizes the need for parents to know their child's vaccination status and promotes adherence to the vaccination schedule. Public service announcements, produced in English and Spanish with information for contacting state health departments, are designed to increase awareness about age-appropriate vaccination (comprising approximately five visits to a health-care provider by the second birthday). Health-care providers are encouraged to use every opportunity to ensure children in their care are up-to-date with their vaccinations (2,3).

State and local events will encourage cooperation between health-care providers and parents to ensure that children receive all recommended vaccinations by their second birthday. Local programs are encouraged to participate in National Infant Immunization Week by tailoring activities to fit their communities' needs.

Nationwide toll-free information services will refer parents without vaccination providers to vaccination services nearest them. The English-language number (800) 232-2522 and Spanish-language number (800) 232-0233 are for general audiences; health-care providers can call (800) 232-7468 to obtain information about current guidelines by facsimile or mail. Additional information about childhood vaccination is

Notices to Readers — Continued

available from state immunization programs or CDC's National Immunization Program, Mailstop E-06, 1600 Clifton Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30333.

References

- CDC. Reported vaccine-preventable diseases—United States, 1993, and the Childhood Immunization Initiative. MMWR 1994;43:57–60.
- Orenstein WA, Atkinson W, Mason D, Bernier RH. Barriers to vaccinating preschool children. J Health Care Poor Underserved 1990;1:315–30.
- National Vaccine Advisory Committee. The measles epidemic: the problems, barriers, and recommendations. JAMA 1991;266:1547–52.

Notice to Readers

Availability of National HIV Serosurveillance Summary — Results through 1992

CDC collaborates with state and local health departments, other federal agencies, blood-collection agencies, hospitals, and medical research institutions to conduct human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) seroprevalence surveys and studies in selected populations. These activities constitute a serosurveillance network to monitor the prevalence of HIV infection in the United States. These surveys monitor various populations, including persons at increased risk (e.g., persons attending drug-treatment centers and sexually transmitted disease clinics) and broader populations (e.g., applicants for military service and childbearing women) (Figure 1).

FIGURE 1. Metropolitan areas, states, and territories that participated in CDC's National HIV Serosurveillance Progam — United States, 1991–1992



Notices to Readers - Continued

Single copies of National HIV Serosurveillance Summary—Results through 1992 (1) are available free from the CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 6003, Rockville, MD 20849-6003; telephone (800) 458-5231.

Reference

 CDC. National HIV serosurveillance summary—results through 1992. Atlanta: US Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, 1994; DHHS publication no. (CDC)11-93/036.

Notice to Readers

Publication of Special NIOSH Hazard Review of the Rubber Products Manufacturing Industry

CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently published Special NIOSH Hazard Review: Rubber Products Manufacturing Industry (1)*, which summarizes adverse health effects associated with worker exposures in the rubber products industry and examines research needed to assess and prevent these effects.[†]

Excess deaths from bladder, stomach, lung, hematopoietic, and other cancers have occurred among workers involved in the manufacture of rubber products. These workers may also risk adverse respiratory effects, dermatologic effects, reproductive effects, injuries, and repetitive trauma disorders. The adverse health effects cannot be attributed to a single chemical or group of chemicals because workplace exposures vary greatly and chemical formulations change frequently. Most of the chemicals found in the rubber products industry have not been tested for carcinogenicity or toxicity nor do they have Occupational Safety and Health Administration permissible exposure limits or NIOSH recommended exposure limits. This hazard review concludes that epidemiologic, toxicologic, and industrial hygiene studies are needed to assess the risk for cancer and other adverse health effects for rubber products workers.

Reference

 NIOSH. Special NIOSH hazard review: rubber products manufacturing industry. Cincinnati: US Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, CDC, 1993; DHHS publication no. (NIOSH)93-106.

^{*}Single copies of this document are available without charge from the Publications Office, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, NIOSH, CDC, Mailstop C-13, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998; telephone (800) 356-4674; fax (513) 533-8573.

[†]NIOSH special hazard reviews address hazards for which there are not sufficient data to permit comprehensive review in a NIOSH criteria document or a Current Intelligence Bulletin.

Notice to Readers

Publication of NEG and NIOSH Basis for an Occupational Health Standard: Ethyl Ether

CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has recently released NEG and NIOSH Basis for an Occupational Health Standard: Ethyl Ether (1)*. This document was developed as the result of an agreement between NIOSH and the Nordic Expert Group for Documentation of Occupational Exposure Limits (NEG) to exchange occupational safety and health information and expertise.

The document presents a survey of the literature concerning occupational exposure limits for ethyl ether. This chemical has a wide range of uses in the chemical industry, mainly as a solvent and an extraction medium. Ethyl ether has also been used as an inhalation anesthetic for surgery, but it has largely been replaced in this role by more modern anesthetics. More than 125 million tons of ethyl ether are produced each year in the United States.

The acute and chronic toxicities of ethyl ether are low, and the principal exposure routes in the occupational setting are inhalation and skin contact. The critical effect of ethyl ether is irritation of the upper respiratory passages. Long-term exposure to low concentrations in air may produce central nervous system symptoms such as sleepiness, dizziness, irritability, headache, and psychic disturbances. Ethyl ether is a mild skin irritant, especially after repeated exposures.

Reference

NIOSH. NEG and NIOSH basis for an occupational health standard: ethyl ether. Cincinnati: US
Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, CDC, 1993; DHHS publication
no. (NIOSH)93-103.

Erratum: Vol. 42, No. SS-5

In the article "Silicosis Surveillance—Michigan, New Jersey, Ohio, and Wisconsin, 1987–1990" on page 25, the last sentence of the *Case Confirmation* paragraph is incorrect. The sentence should state: "Case confirmation requires a) a history of occupational exposure to airborne silica dust and a chest radiograph or other imaging technique interpreted as consistent with silicosis or b) a lung tissue biopsy indicating silicosis."

^{*}Single copies of this document are available without charge from the Publications Office, Division of Standards Development and Technology Transfer, NIOSH, CDC, Mailstop C-13, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998; telephone (800) 356-4674; fax (513) 533-8573

The Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) Series is prepared by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and is available on a paid subscription basis from the Superintendent of Documents. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402; telephone (202) 783-3238.

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